

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended; is respectfully requested.

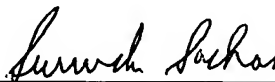
By the present preliminary amendment an Abstract is submitted.

Further, claims 1-12 are canceled without prejudice and new claims 13-24 are presented for examination. New claims 13-24 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, including the original claims, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter. Further, new claims 13-24 are not believed to be more narrow in scope in any aspect in comparison with canceled claims 1-12.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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Bradley D. Lytle  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220

(OSMMN 03/06)

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Surinder Sachar  
Registration No. 34,423